



OFFICE OF THE CHIEF MEDICAL EXAMINER

London N. Breed, Mayor

VIA EMAIL ONLY

October 9, 2020

Report on Accidental Overdose Deaths - January to August, 2020

Dear Mayor Breed, President Yee and Dr. Colfax,

The enclosed report provides preliminary data of accidental overdose deaths in San Francisco within the first eight months of 2020. We trust this report adheres to the mandate and spirit of providing timely information for drug harm strategies. These results are strictly preliminary as of testing to September 25, 2020, and are subject to change as the OCME finalizes the manner and cause of each death.

Pertinent for accurate use of this report is to understand the source of the data and its subsequent process of summarization. Decedent demographic and case information was obtained from the OCME case management system. Additionally, specific details from investigator narratives, forensic toxicology results and, where available, preliminary autopsy findings, were utilized. Collected demographic information included race, gender, age, fixed address status, zip code of residence, and zip code of death location.

Due to their significance in accidental overdose deaths, the reported drugs of interest were specific to fentanyl, heroin, medicinal opioids, methamphetamine and cocaine. Their detection in blood was captured to best determine their relevance in each respective case. Medicinal opioid positive cases required the presence of morphine, hydromorphone, oxymorphone, codeine, hydrocodone, oxycodone, buprenorphine, tramadol, and/or methadone. Heroin determination was more closely evaluated, requiring the presence of specific heroin markers in blood or urine, expected morphine to codeine ratios, and/or case details consistent with heroin use.

Subject to the nature of the preliminary reporting described above, this report is not intended to replace other death statistics within the City that consider finalized death certificates only.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Luke N. Rodda".

Luke N. Rodda, Ph.D.
Chief Forensic Toxicologist and Director, Forensic Laboratory Division

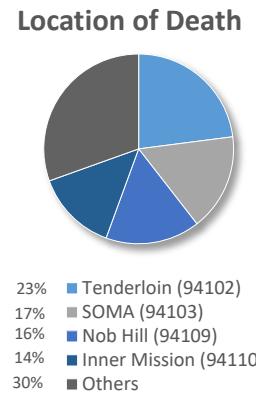
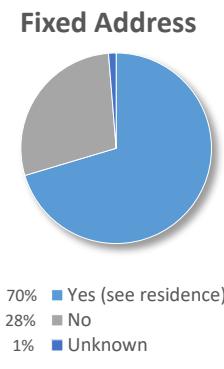
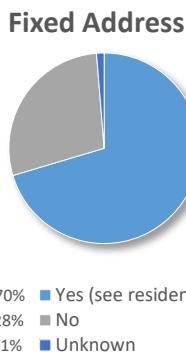
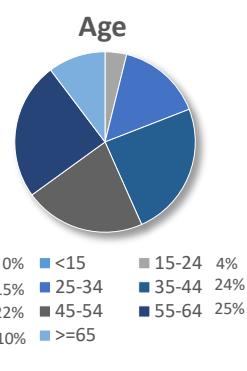
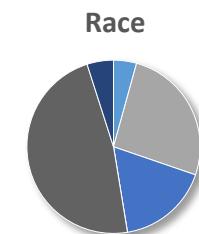
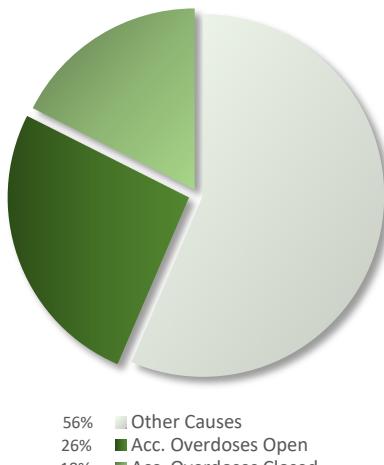
cc: Office of the City Administrator
enclosures: January-August 2020 Overdose Reports



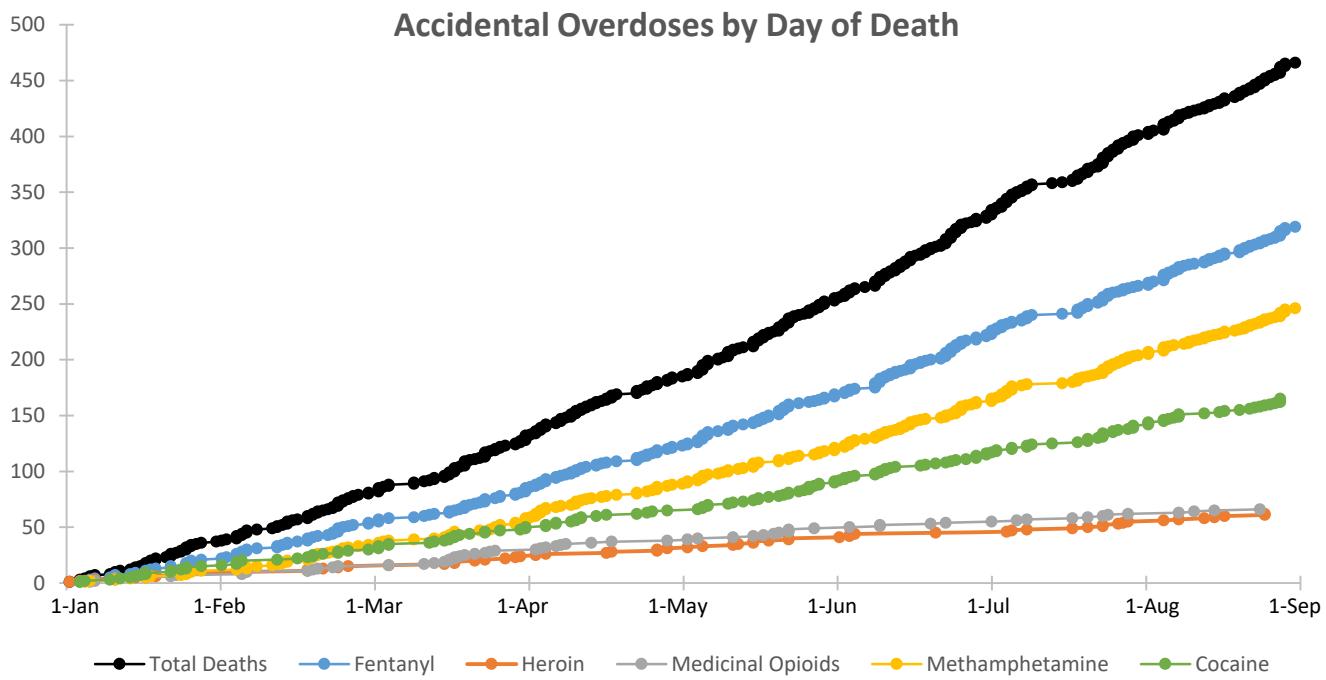
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of September 25, 2020

JAN-AUG 2020

Total Cases Received by OCME (1070)



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



"Acc. Overdoses Open" cases do not have a final cause and manner of death classification; "Acc. Overdoses Closed" cases have a final cause and manner of death classification.
"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

"Residence" denotes address where decedent lived; "Location of Death" denotes the location where death was declared. For "Residence" and "Location of Death", the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of out county residences.

"Gender" refers to gender at time of death.

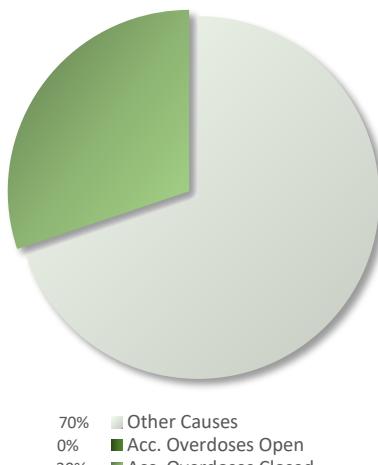
"Total Deaths" denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.



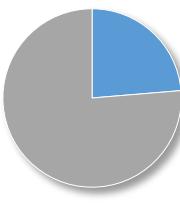
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
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JANUARY 2020

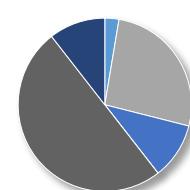
Total Cases Received by OCME (126)



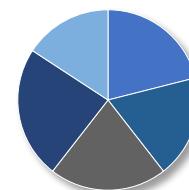
Gender



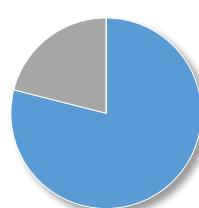
Race



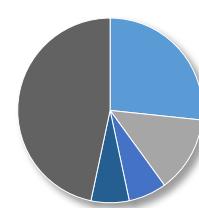
Age



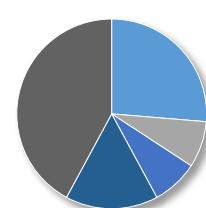
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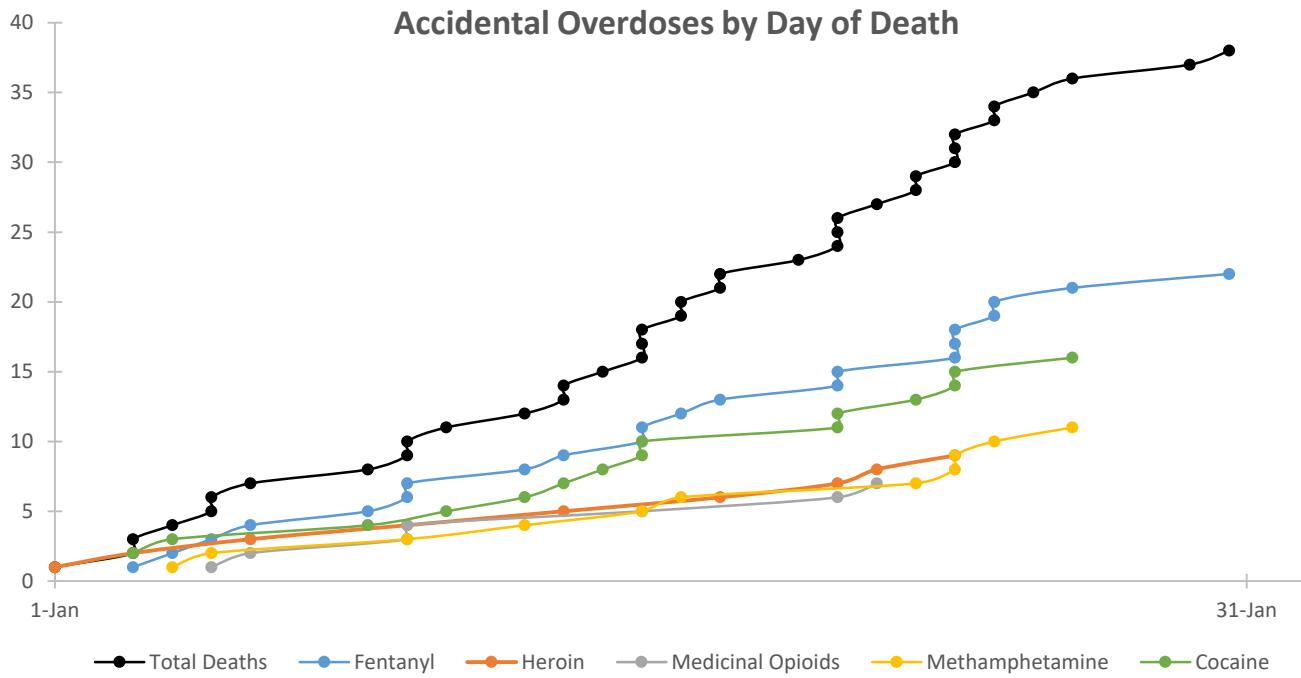
Residence



Location of Death



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



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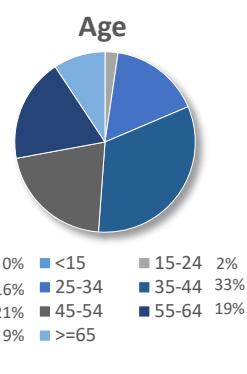
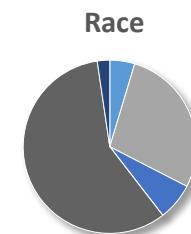
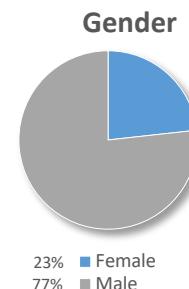
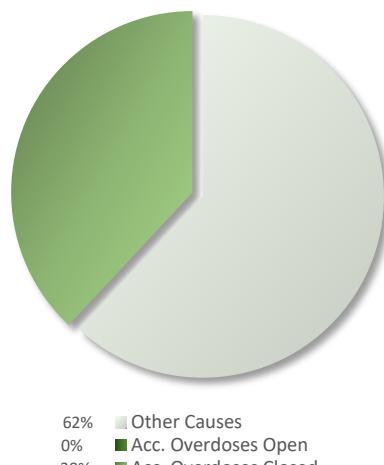
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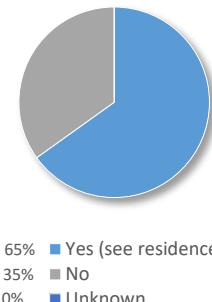
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
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FEBRUARY 2020

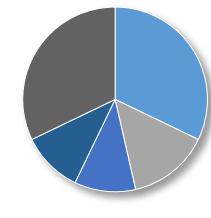
Total Cases Received by OCME (113)



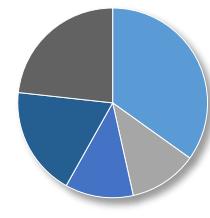
Fixed Address



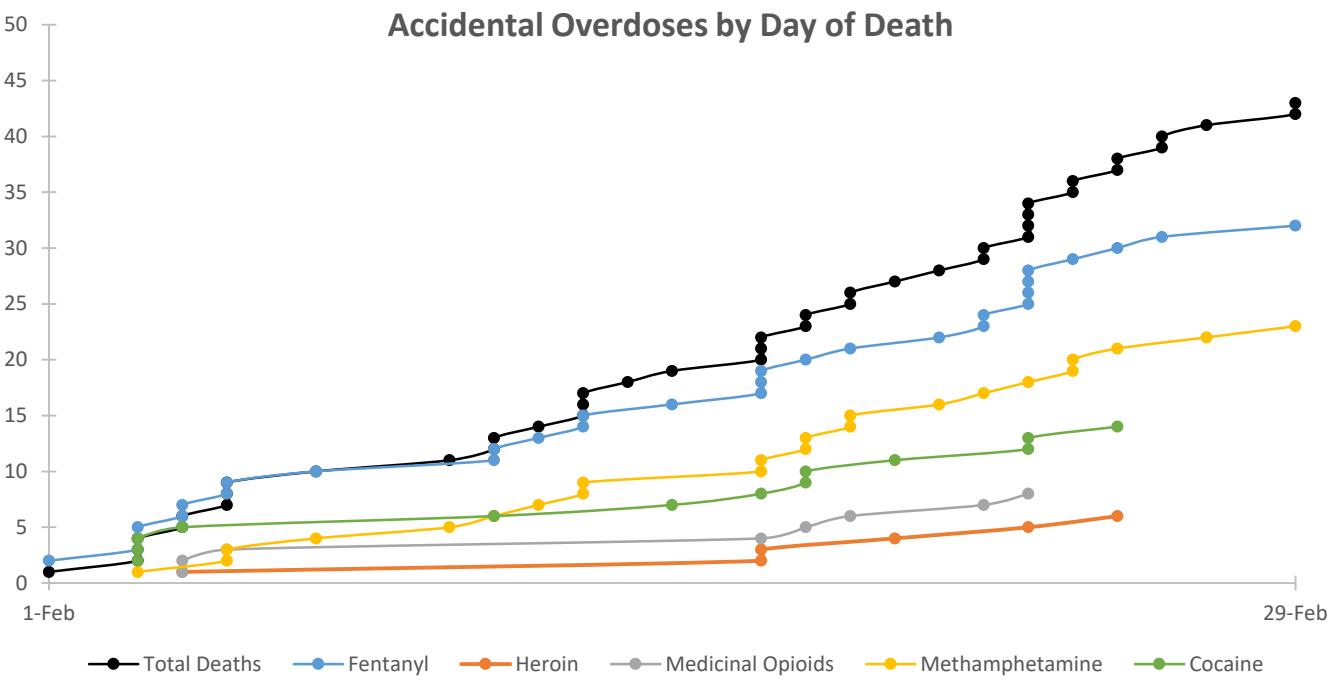
Residence



Location of Death



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



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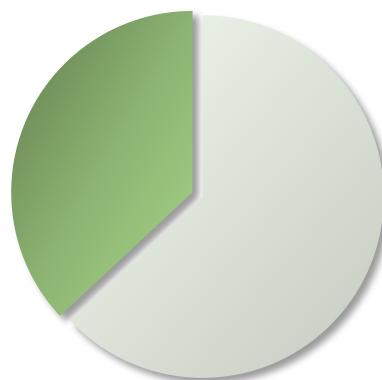
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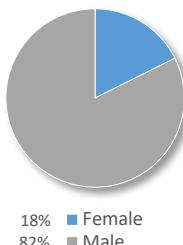
MARCH 2020

Total Cases Received by OCME (138)



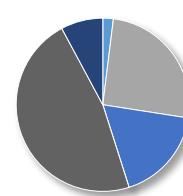
63% ■ Other Causes
0% ■ Acc. Overdoses Open
37% ■ Acc. Overdoses Closed

Gender



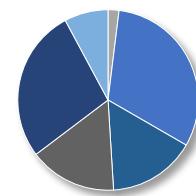
18% ■ Female
82% ■ Male

Race



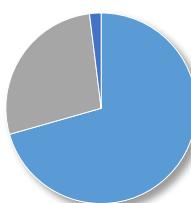
2% ■ Asian
25% ■ Black
18% ■ Latinx
0% ■ Native American
47% ■ White
8% ■ Other/Unknown

Age



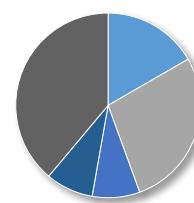
0% ■ <15
2% ■ 15-24
31% ■ 25-34
16% ■ 35-44
16% ■ 45-54
27% ■ 55-64
8% ■ >=65

Fixed Address



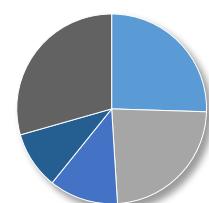
71% ■ Yes (see residence)
27% ■ No
2% ■ Unknown

Residence



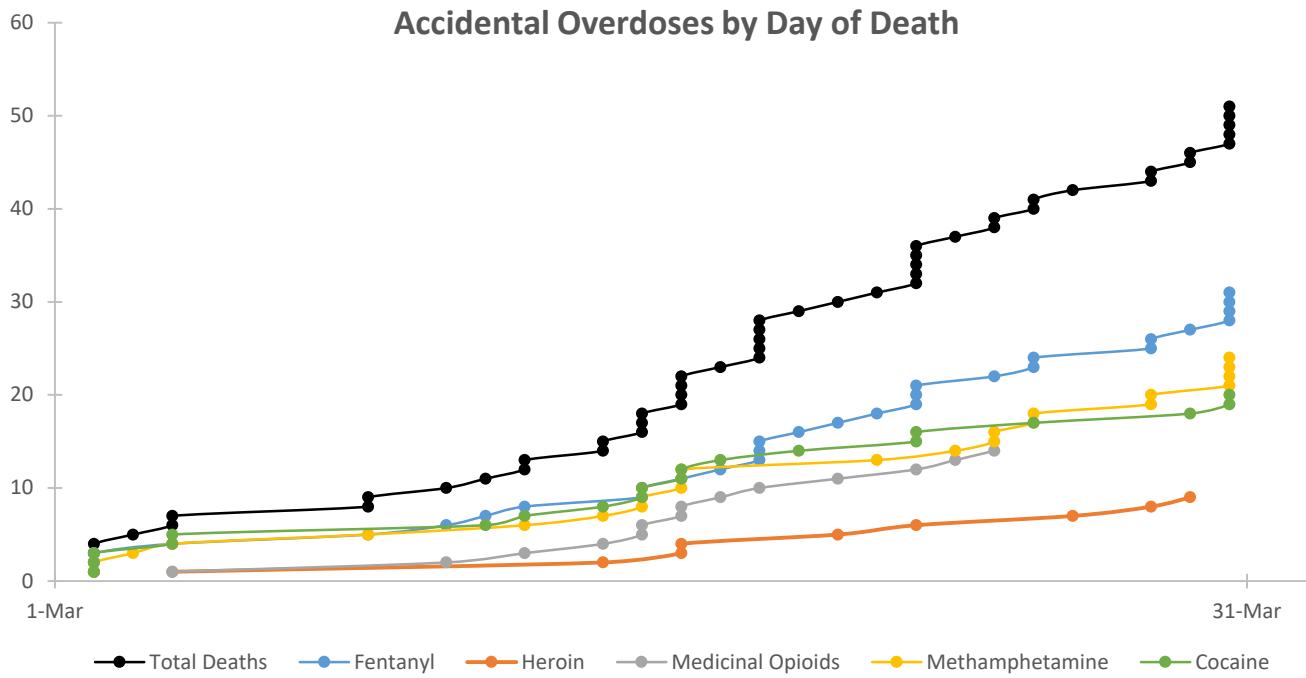
17% ■ Tenderloin (94102)
28% ■ SOMA (94103)
8% ■ Inner Mission (94110)
8% ■ Twin Peaks (94131)
39% ■ Others
12% ■ Nob Hill (94109)

Location of Death



25% ■ Tenderloin (94102)
24% ■ SOMA (94103)
12% ■ Nob Hill (94109)
10% ■ Inner Mission (94110)
29% ■ Others

Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



—●— Total Deaths —●— Fentanyl —●— Heroin —●— Medicinal Opioids —●— Methamphetamine —●— Cocaine

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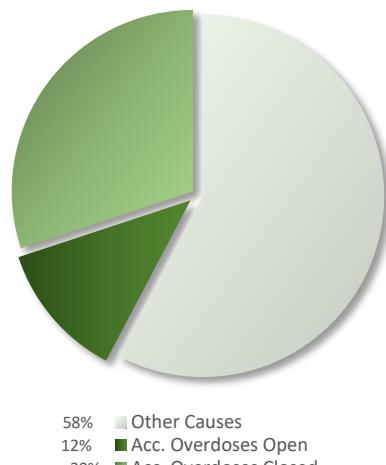
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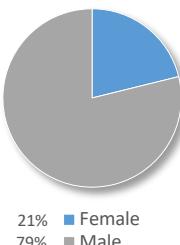
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APRIL 2020

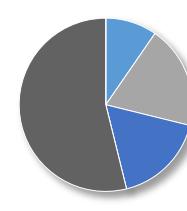
Total Cases Received by OCME (123)



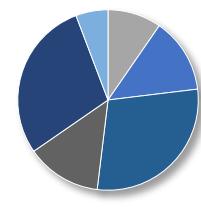
Gender



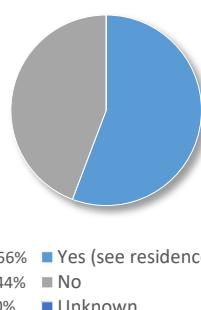
Race



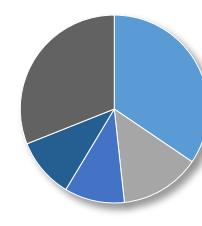
Age



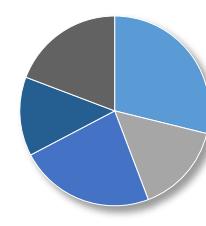
Fixed Address



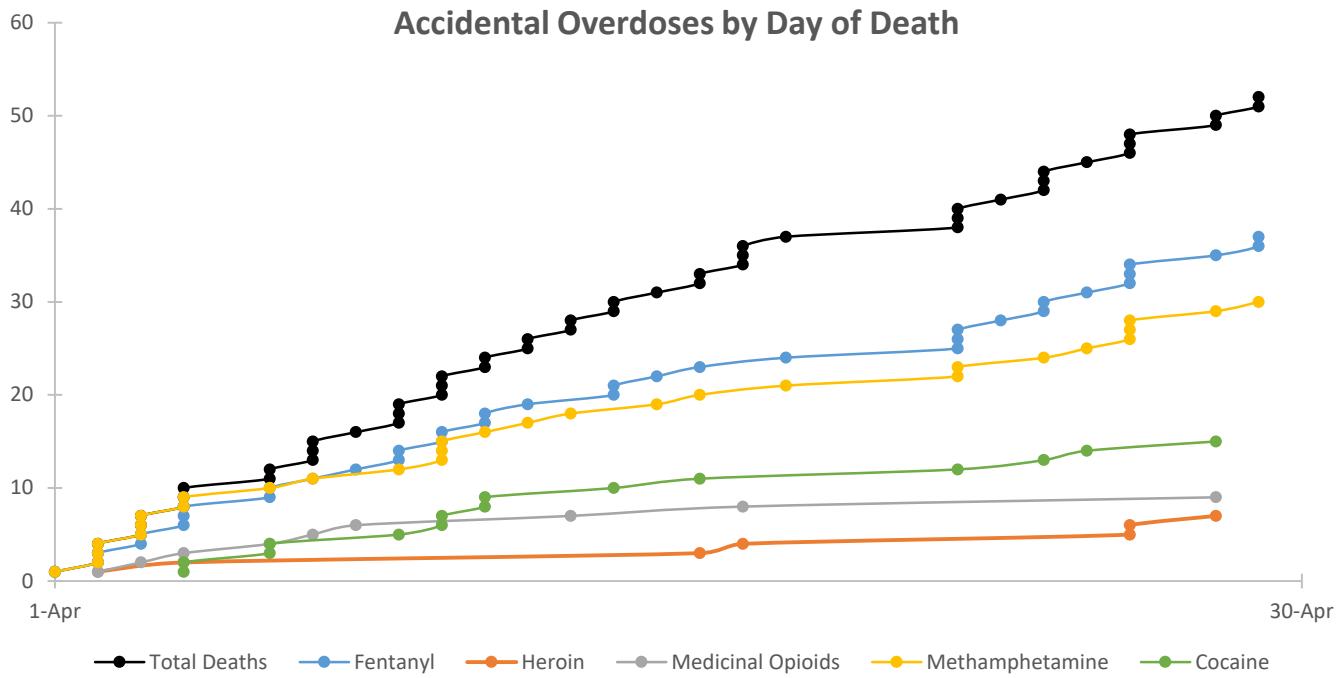
Residence



Location of Death



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



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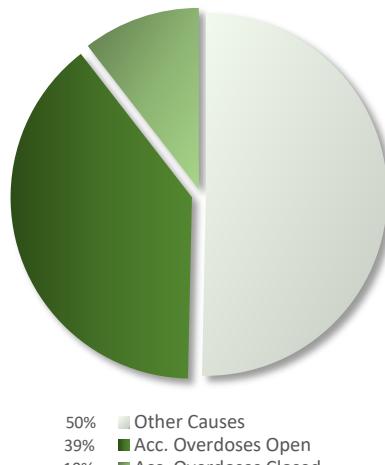
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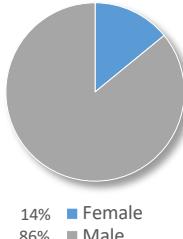
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as of September 25, 2020

MAY 2020

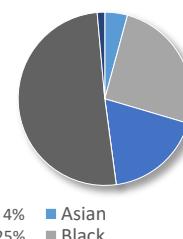
Total Cases Received by OCME (143)



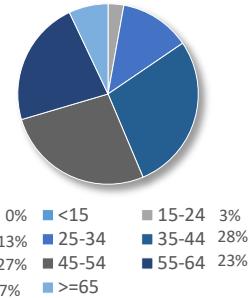
Gender



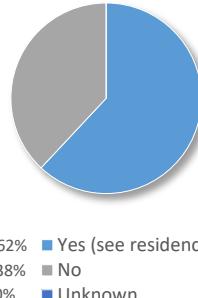
Race



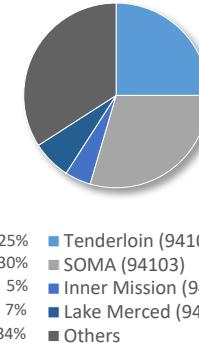
Age



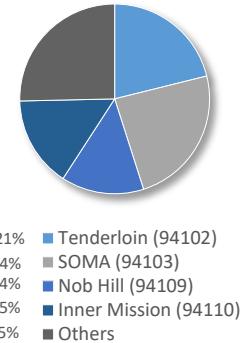
Fixed Address



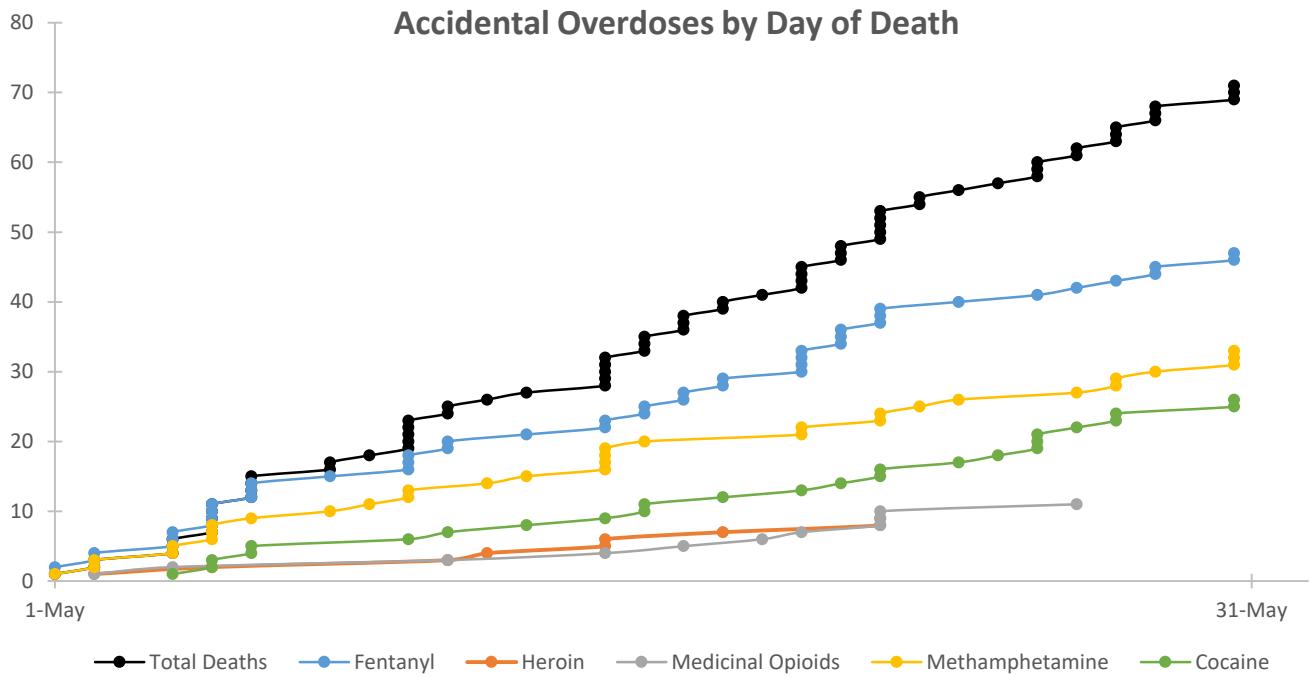
Residence



Location of Death



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



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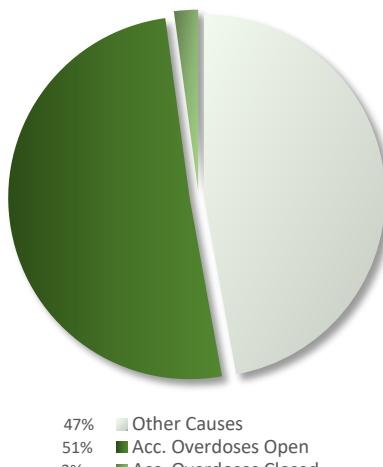
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JUNE 2020

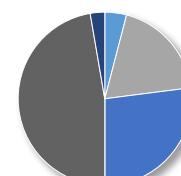
Total Cases Received by OCME (140)



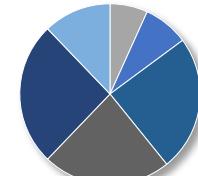
Gender



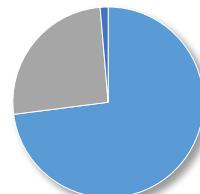
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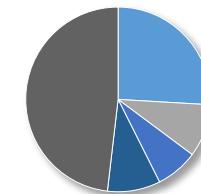
Age



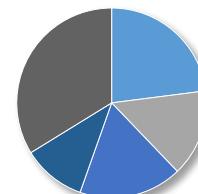
Fixed Address



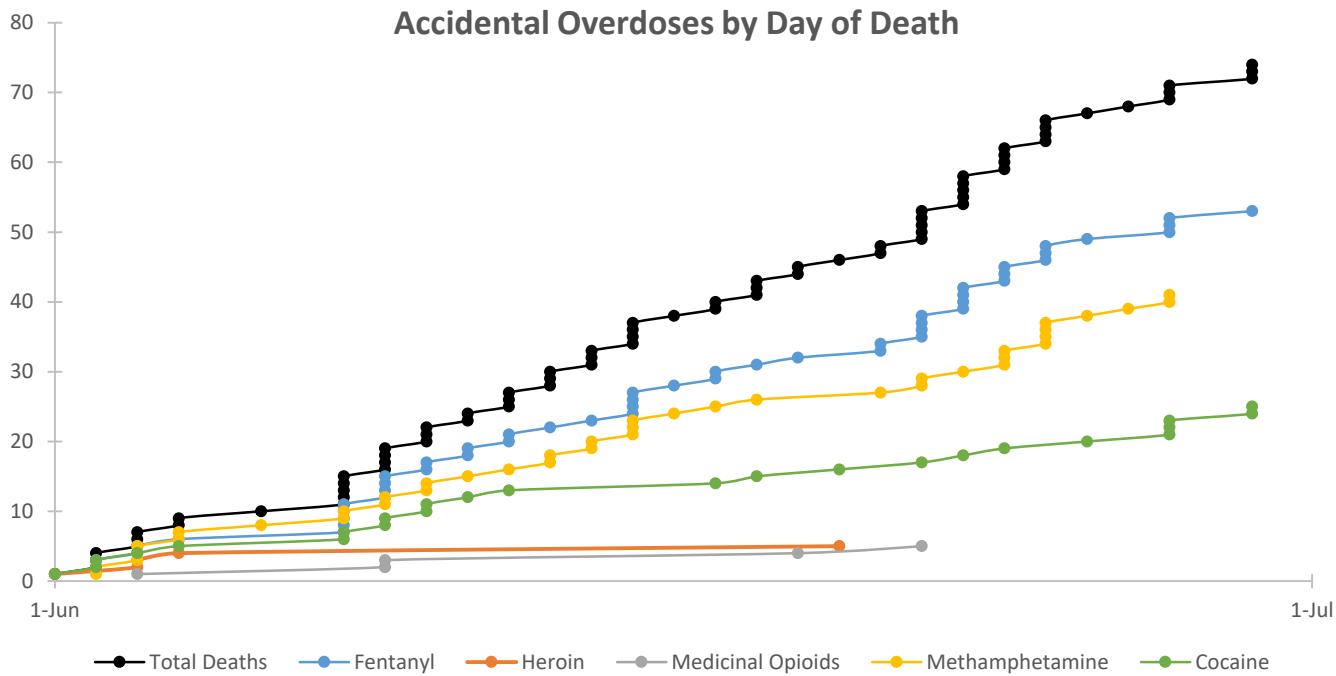
Residence



Location of Death



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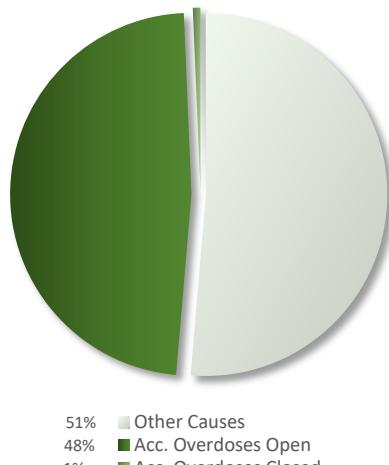
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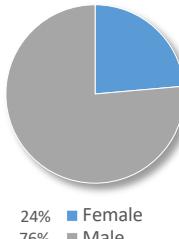
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JULY 2020

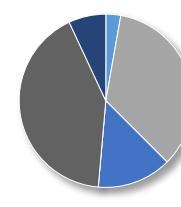
Total Cases Received by OCME (148)



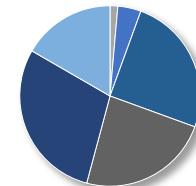
Gender



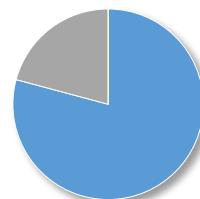
Race



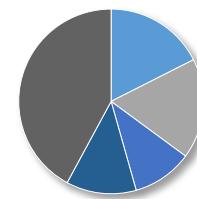
Age



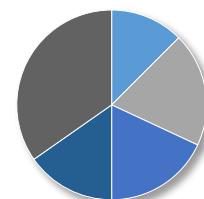
Fixed Address



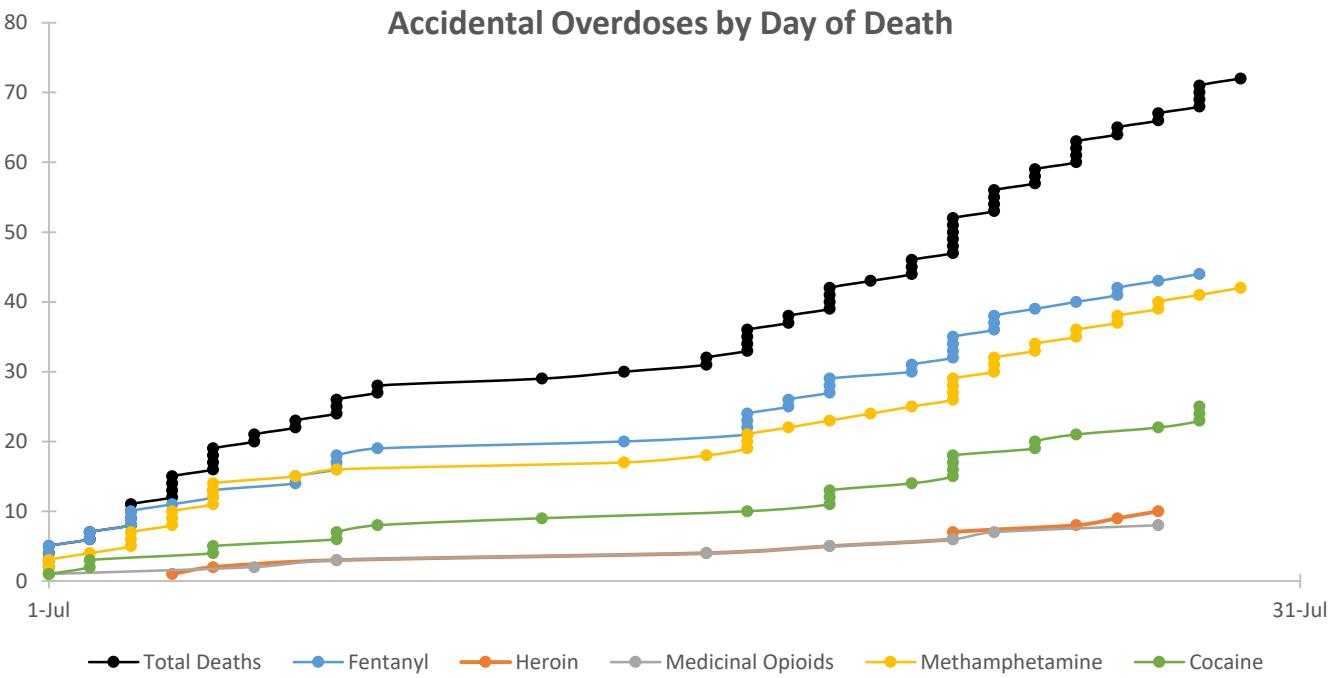
Residence



Location of Death



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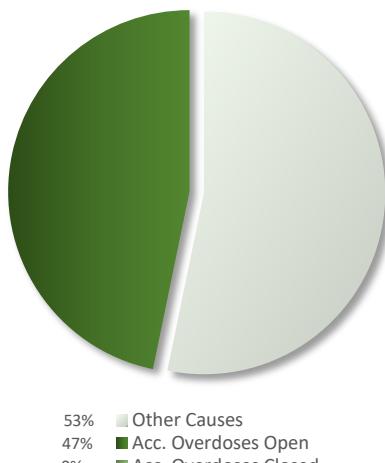
"Total Deaths" denotes Accidental Overdoses where one or more drugs contribute to the cause of death; however, every point for each drug series is inclusive, but not necessarily exclusive, of that drug. "Total deaths" represents all accidental overdoses including ones for drugs not specified above.



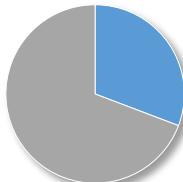
Preliminary Accidental Drug Overdose Data Report
as of September 25, 2020

AUGUST 2020

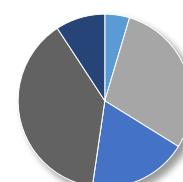
Total Cases Received by OCME (139)



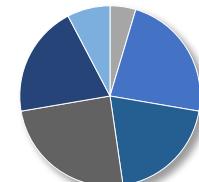
Gender



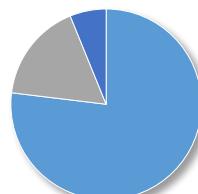
Race



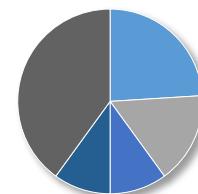
Age



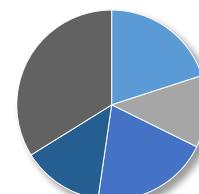
Fixed Address



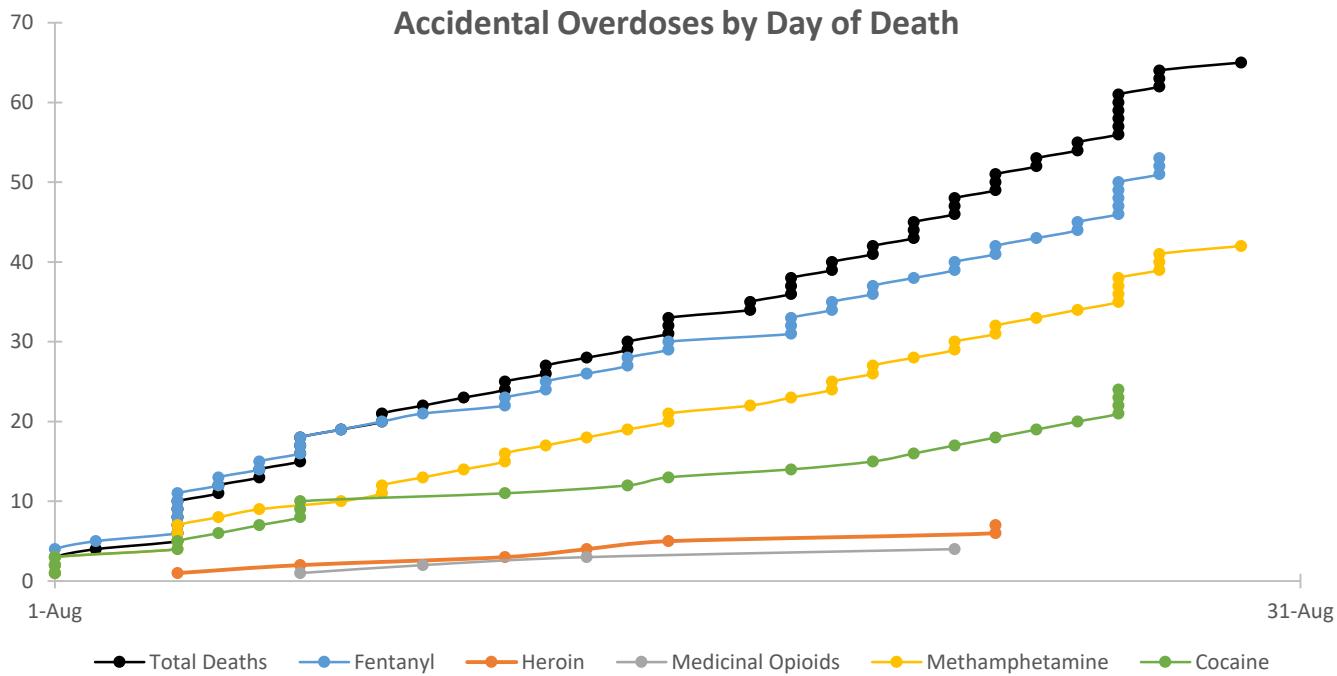
Residence



Location of Death



Accidental Overdoses by Day of Death



"Acc. Overdoses Open" cases do not have a final cause and manner of death classification; "Acc. Overdoses Closed" cases have a final cause and manner of death classification.
"No fixed address" denotes community members who may be experiencing homelessness.

"Residence" denotes address where decedent lived; "Location of Death" denotes the location where death was declared. For "Residence" and "Location of Death", the 4 most affected neighborhoods are represented, the "Others" category refers to all other zip codes within the City and County of San Francisco and any of out county residences.

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